



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. Retail demand was light to fair. Food service was moderate to fairly good, best into fast food channels. Supplies were fully adequate to ample. In the parts structure, wings were in close balance and clearing satisfactorily. Leg quarters were fully adequate to instances ample. Breast items were readily available and generally slow to clear even at competitive price levels. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range of light to heavy, mostly desirable to instances heavy.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading declined .50 cent to 61.00 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 71.00 cents last year on the 16th of September, 1998.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
BREASTS - B/S	187.00
BREASTS - WHOLE	90.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	61.00
LEG QUARTERS	22.50
WINGS	56.50

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

15 STATES	PERCENT CHANGE	
WEEK ENDING 9/11/99	1999	1998 PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	167,410	168,081 0%
CHICKS PLACED	140,042	139,912 0%

Broiler Eggs Set In 15 Selected States Up 2 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set in incubators 167 million eggs during the week ending September 11, 1999. This was down slightly from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 80 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler Chicks Placed Up Slightly

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 140 million chicks for meat production during the week ending September 11, 1999. Placements were up slightly from the comparable week in 1998. Cumulative placements from January 3, 1999, through September 11, 1999, were 5.20 billion, up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 23-Oct-99 IS ESTIMATED AT 148.1 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 148.7 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 146.5 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 148.2 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 67.60 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was about steady. Offerings ample and slow to clear. Buyer's needs were only fair. Retail demand was moderate overall best for parts. Floor stocks were generally adequate. The market tone was barely steady on parts with breasts in the weakest position.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment ranged steady to weak. Demand was light to fair and mostly unaggressive. Supplies ranged adequate to ample, with some dealers watching for the effects of Hurricane Floyd. In the parts structure, breast items were readily available and generally slow to clear. Leg quarters were fully adequate. Wings were in close balance and clearing satisfactorily. In production areas, live supplies were moderate, with weights in a full range of light to heavy, mostly desirable.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment on whole fryers was barely steady to weak. Offerings were readily available on heavy sizes with buyers uninterested. Retail movement continued to struggle with sellers reporting demand slower than normal. Food service demand was irregular, light to instances fairly good, best in Chicago and for features. Supplies were adequate to fully adequate with sizes trending heavier. Parts trading was moderately active on wings with supplies being held with confidence. Supplies of leg quarters building with trading light to fair at best. Breast items were fully adequate to instances ample and difficult to place. Trade sentiment was fully steady on wings, steady to barely steady on dark meat items and weak on the balance of items.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was about moderate. Offerings were fully adequate with heavier sizes accumulating in instances. Retail and distributive movement was slow and disappointing. The market tone was barely steady to weak in instances. In the parts market, product was for the most part more than sufficient to fill immediate trade requirements with breasts still in the longest position.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER MARKET Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was light and cautious. Seller offerings remained fully adequate to ample. Live supplies were at least moderate; weights varied, but were often noted as heavier than desired. Processing schedules were moderate to heavy. The approaching hurricane was already causing some disruptions and some plants anticipated curtailing operations. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 53 to 65 cents. Trade sentiment was unsettled to weak. Wings were adequate and clearing well. Boneless/skinless and bone-in breasts were readily available. Leg quarters were fully adequate to ample.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.	
RANGE	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A 53-69
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	56.88
NO. OF BOXES	7,169

*5 of 8 plants reporting.

SEPTEMBER 14, 1999

POUNDS					POUNDS				
ITEM	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG		ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG
BREAST - B/S	681 137.00-215.00	165-170	172.90		BREAST - B/S	730	125.00-210.00	155-160	158.54
TENDERLOINS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TENDERLOINS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
BREAST - LINE RUN	132 82.00-90.00	82-84	83.44		BREAST - LINE RUN	146	78.00-90.00	79-80	80.79
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	98 28.00-37.00	28-30	30.67		LEGS	87	28.00-37.00	28-30	30.10
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	389 17.00-22.00	19-20	19.11		LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	440	17.00-21.00	18-19	18.25
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	850 20.50-24.00	21-23	22.42		LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	899	21.00-24.00	21-22	21.94
WINGS (WHOLE)	132 48.00-56.00	49-50	52.04		WINGS (WHOLE)	172	48.00-56.50	49-50	51.72
WINGS (CUT)	368 58.00-72.00	62-63	62.10		WINGS (CUT)	399	58.00-72.00	63-64	64.22
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	50 52.00-68.00	-	55.20		B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR SEPTEMBER 14, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE
34.50-44.00	40.43

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
29.00 - 43.50	37.98	40.55

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was mixed as dealers prepared for the weekend and closely watched for any effects of hurricane Floyd. Offerings were currently more than adequate to cover immediate trade needs. Retail and distributive movement was dull and disappointing. The market tone remained barely steady to weak.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL

TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES **SEPTEMBER 14, 1999**

ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD	
ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	155-165	173.83	438,800
TENDERLOINS	150-155	154.80	29,320
BREAST - WITH RIBS	73-74	85.66	217,000
BREAST - LINE RUN	73	75.44	190,800
LEGS	29-30	34.70	200,040
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21	22.75	445,569
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	34.47	99,840
THIGHS	19-20	26.48	92,900
B/S THIGHS	70-71	70.09	38,290
WINGS (WHOLE)	52-53	59.52	271,160
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.04	23,040
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	55-60	65.09	14,718
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	49.48	27,410

SEPTEMBER 15, 1999

ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD	
ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	150-160	160.08	499,120
TENDERLOINS	150-155	154.93	61,360
BREAST - WITH RIBS	70-71	85.16	220,960
BREAST - LINE RUN	70	73.50	251,040
LEGS	29-30	35.50	184,320
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	19-20	22.42	305,702
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	34.96	93,320
THIGHS	19-20	28.02	70,860
B/S THIGHS	70-71	71.09	30,440
WINGS (WHOLE)	53-54	62.24	174,720
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.43	22,720
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	55-60	64.62	15,656
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	49.01	27,440

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED	ACTUAL	AVG	ACTUAL	AVG
	09/15	09/14	09/13	09/10	09/08
ALA	3,921	3,898	3,835	4,633	5.16
ARK	5,028	5,224	5,127	7,336	4.81
DELMARVA	2,459	2,473	2,477	3,294	5.10
KY-LA-TN	1,777	1,806	1,802	2,024	4.46
MISS	2,783	2,781	2,664	3,723	5.00
NC	2,558	2,542	2,434	3,211	5.59
TEXAS	2,115	2,096	2,047	2,667	4.74
TOTAL	20,641	20,820	20,386	26,888	4.99
MON-WED62,063 (B)					43,570 (B)

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations

(B) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 15-Sep 99 is estimated to be 30,881,000 up 0.77 percent from a week ago and up 5.26 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,644,000; last year 29,337,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY**DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	82-84
ROASTERS 4# & UP	84-90
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	83-88
DUCKS	135
RABBITS-WHOLE	309
RABBITS-CUT UP	326

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY**DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	93-98
	DRY PACK	107
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104
	DRY PACK	112
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	92
	DRY PACK	98
DUCKS		149-166

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING SEPT - 18

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	09/18/99 (1)	09/11/99
CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	158,026 (2)	126,390
LT HENS	2,029	1,634
HVY HENS	1,547	1,385
CHECK TOTAL	161,602	129,409

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 18-Sep-99 is 151.7 million head compared to 131.2 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 159.9 million head or 8.2 million more than estimated available. For week of 25-Sep-99 the estimated available is 153.2 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 13-Sep-99	189,660	96,500
AM 1-Sep-99	192,814	95,979
CHG	-3,154	521
PCT CHG	-2	1

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT

(IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	09/13/99	09/06/99	09/14/98	09/13/99	09/06/99	09/14/98
PACIFIC						
COAST	40,024	39,936	43,208	16,165	16,512	7,797
LOS						
ANGELES	1,045	1,056	434	6,139	6,754	2,948

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 09/14/99

	LO	HI	AVG		LO	HI	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.40	.90	.64	HEAVY FOWL ea.	1.50	3.75	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	.40	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	.40	.50	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	.25	-	BANTAMS ea.	.35	.50	-
BROILERS lb.	-	.10	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	.50	.80	.66	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	.30	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	1.75	3.25	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.40	1.10	.76	ROOSTERS ea.	1.50	2.25	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	.40	.85	.44	TURKEYS ea.	1.75	4.00	-
DUCKS lb.	.40	1.85	.96	DUCKS ea.	3.00	4.75	-
RABBITS lb.	.50	1.10	.85	RABBITS ea.	.60	2.00	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	1.00	2.75	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	3.50	4.00	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	.50	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-14.00	-	-
SILKIES ea.	- 1.00	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	- 3.00	-	-				

TOTAL COOPS 164

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 1999.

HENS		RANGE
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)		59-64
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)		66

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending September 10, 1999

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs w/ Thighs	Necks,Backs & Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	49.74	112.15	68.27	24.38	4.88	46.32
High	51.20	121.91	87.77	29.26	5.85	46.32
Mostly	51.20	121.91	82.90	24.38	5.85	46.32
SAN JUAN						
Low	57.05	107.28	63.39	19.51	7.31	50.71
High	58.03	121.91	73.14	31.70	8.78	50.71
Mostly	57.05	119.47	68.27	24.38	7.31	50.71
NEW SAN JUAN						
Low	48.76	112.15	68.27	19.51	4.88	43.89
High	51.20	121.91	82.90	29.26	5.85	43.89
Mostly	51.20	121.91	78.02	19.51	5.85	43.89
BECERRA						
Low	56.56	107.28	68.27	24.38	5.85	49.74
High	57.54	126.78	78.02	34.13	8.78	49.74
Mostly	57.54	117.03	73.14	26.82	5.85	49.74

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